



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 41.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, December 07, 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana, Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Power

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Udaya Gammanpila, Minister of Energy

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Foreign and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Trade

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Minister of Lands

Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon, Minister of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Labour

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara, Minister of Water Supply

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Plantation

Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris, Minister of Education

Hon. Johnston Fernando, Minister of Highways and Chief Government Whip

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Tourism

Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Minister of Youth & Sports

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Transport

Hon. Wimal Weerawansa, Minister of Industries

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera, Minister of Public Security

Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry, Minister of Justice

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola, State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Co-operative Services, Marketing Development and Consumer Protection

Hon. Ajith Nivard Cabraal, State Minister of Money & Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms

Hon. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Aviation and Export Zones Development

Hon. Sisira Jayakody, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine Promotion, Rural and Ayurvedic Hospitals Development and Community Health

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, State Minister of Tanks, Reservoirs and Irrigation Development related to Rural Paddy Fields

Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, State Minister of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake, State Minister of Wildlife Protection, Adoption of Safety Measures including the Construction of Electrical Fences and Trenches and Reforestation and Forest Resource Development

Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development

Hon. Arundika Fernando, State Minister of Coconut, Kithul and Palmyrah Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversification

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle, State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and Covid Disease Control

Hon. Susil Premajayantha, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion

Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Regional Co-operation

Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion

Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe, State Minister of Land Management, State Enterprises Land and Property Development

Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa, State Minister of Paddy and Grains, Organic Food, Vegetables, Fruits, Chillies, Onion and Potato Cultivation Promotion, Seed Production and Advanced Technology Agriculture

Hon. Nimal Lanza, State Minister of Rural Roads and other Infrastructure

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura, State Minister of Development of Minor Crops including Sugarcane, Maize, Cashew, Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Betel Related Industries and Export Promotion

- Hon. Vidura Wikramanayaka**, State Minister of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion
- Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage**, State Minister of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Improvement
- Hon. S. Viyalanderan**, State Minister of Backward Rural Areas Development and Promotion of Domestic Animal Husbandary & Minor Economic Crop Cultivation
- Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**, State Minister of Warehouse Facilities, Container Yards, Port Supply Facilities and Boats and Shipping Industry Development
- Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**, State Minister of Samurdhi, Household Economy, Micro Finance, Self Employment and Business Development
- Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**, State Minister of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Material Industries
- Hon. Kanaka Herath**, State Minister of Company Estate Reforms, Tea and Rubber Estates Related Crops Cultivation and Factories Modernization and Tea and Rubber Export Promotion
- Hon. D. B. Herath**, State Minister of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries
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- Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**
- Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah**
- Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala**
- Hon. Kapila Athukorala**
- Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala**
- Hon. Sampath Athukorala**
- Hon. Tissa Attanayake**
- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
- Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**
- Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal**
- Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan**
- Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**
- Hon. Tiran Alles**
- Hon. Naseer Ahamed**
- Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi**
- Hon. M. Udayakumar**
- Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura**
- Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda**
- Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna**

Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Jagath Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena

Hon. Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Harin Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna

Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker took the Chair.

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Local Loans and Development Fund for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Fisheries presented the Annual Report of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Reports and Accounts of the National Transport Commission for the years 2017 and 2018 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Trade presented the—

- (i) Annual Reports of the Lanka Sathosa for the years 2016 and 2017;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd. for the year 2017-2018; and
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board for the years 2018 and 2019

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the Industrial Development Board of Ceylon for the year 2018; and
- (ii) Annual Report & Accounts of the National Gem and Jewellery Authority for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Energy presented the Annual Reports of the Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited for the years 2017 and 2018 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Energy.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Shehan Semasinghe presented a petition dated 11.10.2020 from Mr. M. T. S. Nanayakkara of No. 597/A/2, "Shashi Sevana", 1st Step, Suranimala Mawatha, Anuradhapura.
- (2) Hon. Anura Dissanayaka presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 07.09.2020 from Mr. D. K. Jayathilake of No. 3/70, Court Road, Medawachchiya;
 - (ii) a petition dated 20.08.2020 from Mr. K. G. Titus of No. 11, Bangalawatta, Dumkolawatte, Matale; and
 - (iii) a petition dated 10.09.2020 from Mr. Lionel Padmasiri Jayasinghe of No. 107, P. S. Perera Mawatha, Mampe, Piliyandala.
- (3) Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka presented a petition dated 02.10.2020 from Mr. M. P. Senanayake of Sena Contractors, No. 40, Kachcheri Road, Matale.
- (4) Hon. Ishak Rahuman presented a petition dated 14.09.2020 from Mrs. J. Kusumalatha Senadheera of No. 26, Kunchikulama, Ipalogama.
- (5) Hon. Nalin Fernando presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 12.09.2020 from Mr. Edward Jans of No. 80/3, Paris Perera Mawatha, Ja Ela; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 16.09.2020 from Mr. M. I. Yapage of No. 81, Magul Pokuna, Ragama.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order 30(10) of the Parliament, to the Committee on Public Petitions.

3. Appropriation (2021) Bill — (Seventeenth Allotted Day) : Considered further in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 160

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.06 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. Hon. Isuru Dodangoda took the Chair.)

(At 2.02 p.m. Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna took the Chair.)

(At 3.27 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

(At 4.14 p.m. Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam took the Chair.)

(At 5.46 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Question that the sum of Rs. 371,700,000 for Head 160, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 294,900,000 for Head 160, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 750,000,000 for Head 160, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 580,500,000 for Head 160, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 161

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 224,450,000 for Head 161, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 11,500,000 for Head 161, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,000,000,000 for Head 161, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 424

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 116,250,000 for Head 424, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 12,300,000 for Head 424, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 283

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,670,300,000 for Head 283, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 870,900,000 for Head 283, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 284

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,773,300,000 for Head 284, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 384,500,000 for Head 284, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 294

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 566,000,000 for Head 294, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 720,800,000 for Head 294, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 6.56 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Tuesday, December 08, 2020.

4. Adjournment : And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 6.57 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 08, 2020 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 20th November, 2020.